

11. LUXATION OR SUBLUXATION OF THE HIP (I)

In all, 120 infants were recorded as having congenital luxation or subluxation of the hip (Table 11.1). Of these, 91 were females (sex proportion 0.24). However, there were no recorded cases in 14 of the centres, and 73% of all the cases came from Bogotá and Ljubljana. It is quite clear that different diagnostic criteria must have been employed in these two centres from most of the others. In all probability a positive Ortolani's sign has been taken as diagnostic in many of the cases recorded in Bogotá and Ljubljana, mainly to ensure that cases would be followed up.

Large English and Swedish series (McKeown & Record, 1960; Böök, 1951) suggest that the frequency of hip subluxation and luxation sufficiently

severe to cause trouble later is about 1 per 1000 births. Neel (1958) suggests that the condition is commoner in Japan than in Europe, but the evidence is not impressive.

Carter & Wilkinson (1964) have stressed the two-fold nature of the genetic predisposition—an association with acetabular dysplasia and an association with generalized joint laxity. The association with breech delivery is well known. In all, the present data add nothing to our present knowledge of frequency or etiology of the condition, and only estimates from very carefully organized *ad hoc* studies, in which comparable diagnostic standards were maintained by exchange of physicians, could hope to detect real differences in frequency at birth.

TABLE 11.1
LUXATION OR SUBLUXATION OF THE HIP (I) IN SINGLE BIRTHS

CENTRE		Number of cases		
		Males	Females	Total
I 1	MELBOURNE	2	5	7
I 2	MELBOURNE	0	0	0
II	SÃO PAULO	0	0	0
III	SANTIAGO	1	8	9
IV 1	BOGOTÁ	17	44	61
IV 2	MEDELLÍN	1	4	5
V	CZECHOSLOVAKIA	0	0	0
VI	ALEXANDRIA	0	0	0
VII	HONG KONG	0	0	0
VIII 1	BOMBAY	0	0	0
VIII 2	CALCUTTA	0	0	0
IX 1	KUALA LUMPUR	0	1	1
IX 2	SINGAPORE	0	0	0
X 1	MEXICO CITY	0	1	1
X 2	MEXICO CITY	1	1	2
XI	BELFAST	2	2	4
XII	PANAMA CITY	1	2	3
XIII	MANILA	0	0	0
XIV 1	CAPE TOWN	0	0	0
XIV 2	JOHANNESBURG	0	0	0
XIV 3	PRETORIA	0	0	0
XV	MADRID	0	0	0
XVI 1	LJUBLJANA	4	23	27
XVI 2	ZAGREB	0	0	0
TOTAL		29	91	120